difficult to make a realistic estimate of the number of illegal immigrants from Bangladesh because they enter surreptitiously and are able to mingle easily with the local population due to ethnic and linguistic similarities.

(c) A series of measures have been taken by the Government to curb the problem of infiltration of Bangladeshi nationals into India. These include raising of additional battalions of Border Security Force, reduction of gaps between the border outposts, intensification of patrolling both on the land and the riverine border, accelearted programme of construction of border roads and fencing, increase in the number of outpost towers, provision of surveillance equipments etc. The progress of these measures is reviewed regularly.

Tribals seeking protection from Naxal attacks

3234. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether tribals of certain areas like Nizamabad are agitating and seeking protection from Naxal attacks; and

(b) if so, the action proposed to look into their problems and assist them to live fearlessly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) Government of Andhra Pradesh has intimated that on 24.6.2001 about 500 Lambadas, Tribals of Nizamabad District, took out procession, staged dharna in front of Collectorate, Nizamabad in protest against the attacks of extremists. They also submitted a representation to the District Collector to stop the attacks of extremists.

(b) Government of Andhra Pradesh is taking various steps to protect the lives of Lambadas from the attacks of extremists. Intensified raids and combing operations are organized in the tribal areas to get at the extremists indulging in violence. Apart from this, developmental and welfare programmes are organized in the remote and tribal areas through various schemes by the State Government. The families of Lambadas killed by extremists were paid *ex-gratia* of Rs. 15 lakhs each.